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37/GIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Application of: IMAMURA, et al.

Q.S.5-21-03

Serial No.: 09/121,017

Filed: July 22, 1998

For: **HEPARIN-BINDING PROTEINS MODIFIED WITH SUGAR CHAINS**

Examiner: David A. Saunders (Art Unit 1644)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450

May 12, 2003

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 13, 2002 from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with respect to the above-identified patent application, Applicants hereby amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

see Paper #34 Please cancel Claim 16 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 17, 18, 20, 23 as follows:

G 1 1. (Three Times Amended) A heparin-binding protein comprising at least one covalently bonded sugar chain, wherein the at least one sugar chain is selected from the group consisting of a sulfated polysaccharide, a glycosaminoglycan, an O-linked sugar chain combined with a sulfated polysaccharide or a glycosaminoglycan, an N-linked sugar chain combined with a sulfated polysaccharide or a glycosaminoglycan, and combinations thereof, wherein the residual activity of the heparin-binding protein is increased by adding the at least one covalently bonded sugar chain.

G 2 16. (Thrice Amended) A heparin-binding protein comprising at least one covalently bonded sugar chain, wherein the at least one sugar chain is selected from the group

see Paper #34 regarding cancellation